

**From:** W. Chris Shank  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 10:35am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I think the proposed Microsoft settlement is a very bad idea. I am a computer professional (BS Computer Engineering from Penn State, software engineer by profession) so I see negative effects of Microsofts dominance every day. I urge you to reject this settlement for one that actually punishes Microsoft and opens the industry to competition. For some reason, it is thought that Microsoft was the main driver behind the technological economic boom of the late 90's, when in fact we experienced a technological economic boom due to the innovation of the internet and world-wide-web, in spite of Microsoft. Microsoft has never been on the leading edge of technology. The consistently reinvent the wheel and claim Eureka! Opening the market to competition will allow the technical community to really innovate which will in turn spur the economy. Please consider my concerns and reject the settlment.

Thank you,

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